DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Agriculture not only gives riches to a nation, but the only riches she can call her own.—JOHNSON.

VOL. II. SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 1850. NO. 9.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE PROPRIETOR.

DRAINING.

At the agricultural meeting, April 9, Hon. Mr. Daggett in the chair, the subject of *Draining* was discussed.

Mr. B. V. French, of Braintree, opened the discussion. He thought draining of great importance. Cedar swamps, that are worth no more than a dollar an acre, as it requires one hundred years for them to produce a new growth of cedar, may be made to bear good grass, and the vegetable matter in them is valuable manure for upland. The drains should generally be about twenty-five feet apart, and so constructed as to cut off the springs. When walls are made on wet land, drains may be made in a trench under the wall. Judge Buel used pine boughs in the bottom of drains, and he saw that they worked well fifteen years after they were constructed.

Mr. Felton, of Brookfield, had some experience in draining. He made wall drains by trenching and filling with small stones, which cost but a trifle. In under-draining, he digs two and a half feet deep, and fills one and a half feet with stones, which affords an opportunity to till above the stones. In draining flat lands, he cuts ditches at the margin, to cut off the water that runs in from the high land; and then makes ditches about four rods apart, and leaves them open. Sometimes, in under-draining, he sets flat stones together in the form of a roof, and then fills in small stones.

Mr. Buckminster, of the Ploughman, said that we had but little high land that needs draining. We have many bog meadows that require it, which may be made to produce merchantable hay. But on the borders of brooks we get very good fodder, without draining or manuring. On flat lands drains should not be covered, as this would be an injury.

Mr. French said that he had a great deal of land covered with hardhack, alders, &c., that required draining, in order to render them productive. In making drains, it was best to dig down into the hard pan.

Mr. Lathrop, of South Hadley, said that in relation to lands bordering on streams, he had improved a piece of land of this description, so that he now cut twenty tons of good hay for cows, where before he cut only fourteen tons of fowl meadow and other coarse grasses.

A gentleman, whose name we did not learn, said that he cleared a piece of land fourteen years ago. He cut ditches around it, but this was not sufficient; he then cut drains through, about three rods apart, spread the mud from the ditches over the land, and sowed grass seed. The land was rough; he took out the roots and burnt them, and now he gets good crops, without having used manure.

Mr. Brigham, of Westborough, said that the manner of draining depended on the situation of the land, and the materials at hand for filling the drains. He had land full of cold springs, which he had drained, and he found that it was greatly improved by manure. He found that draining his lands improved them very much, both for tillage and mowing.

Hon. Mr. Daggett remarked that he had been much interested in the subject, which was not a *dry*, though a *cold* one. He thought it was not expedient to drain some lands, and he named several cases in his region, where large crops of cranberries were obtained from wet lands. Where a manufactory was established, land was flowed, and the owner recovered damages nearly equal to the estimated value of the land; and in consequence of flowing, cranberries came in, and fine crops were obtained. The flowing of the land continued till the 20th or last of April.

GRAIN CROPS.

At the agricultural meeting, April 16, Hon. Mr. Daggett in the chair, the general subject of grain crops was discussed.

Mr. Cole, of the N. E. Farmer, said that the cheapest mode of improvement in raising grain or other crops, was in procuring superior varieties of seed, as it cost no more to cultivate valuable kinds than inferior sorts, and the produce is frequently much greater. We have other kinds of corn as valuable as the Parker, Dutton, or Brown, which are not generally known; and we ought to make experiments that will show what are the best kinds, and

their peculiar properties. In fruits we have more systems. We have varieties adapted to different purposes and seasons, and the cultivator can select such as suit his purpose. Improvements may be made by further experiments, in order to learn the best kinds of wheat, and other grain. A little seed of an improved variety will cost but a trifle, and it can soon be increased to an ample supply.

Mr. Felton, of Brookfield, said that he had planted five kinds of corn, in order to get the best kind. He planted one kind from Canada, which increased very much in size in four years. He alluded to a new kind of rye cultivated in his vicinity, called white rye, which was considered superior. He spoke of the Indian wheat, a kind of buckwheat, which in his region was preferred to the common buckwheat. It yielded more, but the grain was a little inferior, on account of a thick hull. He made inquiries as to the value of millet, and remarked that the seed was considered valuable for fowls.

Mr. Cole remarked that, as a grain crop, millet would not generally yield so much profit as some other kinds; and for fodder, corn is more profitable, as it produced a larger crop, and the fodder was excellent. The seed of millet is very good for fowls, and when they need exercise, as is often the case in winter, it may be covered in earth, and they will have to scratch well to get enough to support them.

Mr. Daggett spoke highly of the Indian corn crop. He thought a field of fine corn both valuable and beautiful. There were various ways of cultivating it. He ploughed, in the fall, lands not in sward, manured in the spring, and then ploughed deeply. He found a compost of barn manure mixed with the bed of coal-pits an excellent manure for corn. He planted deeper than farmers generally, and he found it a protection against drought. He cuts his stalks, dries them one day, and then cures them in the barn. He makes the husks palatable to cattle by sprinkling them with salt when mowed away. He thought that he covered his corn three inches deep.

Mr. Lathrop, of South Hadley, said that he ploughed his greensward in the spring, as late as it would answer, so as to plant in season; generally he ploughs about the 10th of May. The sod will decay the sooner if the ploughing be delayed till the grass has started, as it will decompose sooner than the sod that is turned over in the fall. After ploughing, he spreads the manure and harrows it in; and he would rather have two cords thus applied than three cords ploughed under. He plants deep, directs his workmen to cover three inches deep, and step both feet on the hill. He supposes that his men do not actually cover more than two inches deep, and after the earth is pressed down, it is probably from one to one and a half inches deep. When planted in this manner, the crows never pull up his corn, though he has no scarecrows; but they pass on and pull up his neighbors' corn, even when they have images to frighten them. When planted deep, the roots shoot down and become strong by the time the blades get above the surface, and if the crows attempt to pull it up, they only break it off, and after trying a little, they leave it. His soil is sandy loam, mixed with clay. Nearly all soils in this state will bear this deep planting, but it would not be proper on heavy soils. He ploughs eight or nine inches deep. He prefers cutting corn up at the root, when the crop is rather light; but it is inconvenient to harvest heavy crops in this way. Corn cut up at the ground is easily husked, by two men standing on either side of a table, on which a bundle is placed, and husked by both, and then one throws away the bundle of stalks, while the other places another bundle on the table. We should raise corn as late as will ripen in our climate. If one kind of corn ripens in three fourths the time of another kind, it will yield only three quarters as much. The later kind has an advantage from the decomposition of the sod. Mr. L. said that the white rye was thought much of in his region. The long bearded, red chaff winter wheat was the best. It was preferred to the white flint.

Mr. William J. Buckminster, of the Ploughman, said that millet was a valuable crop to sow when it was out of season for other crops. It would bear late sowing. A peck is sufficient seed for an acre, as it is fine. It needs good soil in fine tilth. He remarked that there was a variety of corn. In planting this grain, it is best to plant twice as much as should stand, as the insects may destroy a part; and if they do not, the largest plants may be selected, and the others removed with very little trouble.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Calhoun, president, and to Mr. Daggett, vice-president, for their faithful attention to their duties. Adjourned to the second Tuesday after the meeting of the legislature in January next.

For the New England Farmer.

LARGE FOWLS.

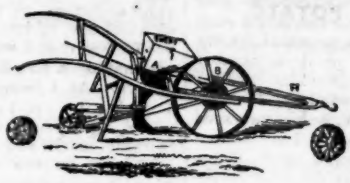
Mr. Editor: Allow me to say through your columns, in reference to the *size* of the "Royal Cochin China fowls" lately imported by me, that I never claimed any very extraordinary dimensions or weight for them, as some persons pretend to suppose. Gentlemen who have seen them, however, have admitted that they are full large enough for beauty, and all practical purposes. I have never attempted, either to compare my fowls with, or to compete with, any other gentleman's birds, nor shall I do so. *I* am satisfied with them, and that is one point gained.

For my *Chittagong* fowls, however, I *do* claim, that they are the largest birds in America, at this time, so far as I am acquainted. I have two hens of this breed now laying, which will weigh, one over eleven pounds, the other nearly ten and a half. I have three pullets, which will draw strong ten pounds each, and four more, that have *never yet laid an egg*, that approach nine pounds each. This is *size* enough for me!

As to comparing my stock with any other varieties, I have never done so. I think my Cochin Chinas very superior fowls, in plumage, size, and model; and I am sorry to learn that a wrong construction has been put upon my having lately sent my birds to Messrs. Ruggles, Nourse, & Mason's to be seen. The Cochin Chinas exhibited there a few days since, will now weigh about eighteen pounds per pair. They are eight months old, only.

Yours, &c., G. P. BURNHAM.

Roxbury, Mass., *April* 8.



EMERY'S SEED-SOWER AND CORN-PLANTER.

This seed-sower is adapted to hand or horse power; and the sowing apparatus can be so arranged as to adapt it to the sowing of large or small seeds. It drops the seed at any desirable distances, and the changes are made with the greatest ease and expedition. As the gearing is of cast iron, it is regular, uniform, and durable. Seeds may be dropped in hills, or strewed along in a drill.

The first premiums of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society, of the Mass. Charitable Mechanics' Association, and of the American Institute, have been awarded to this sower; also the first premiums of several county societies.

As the seed-sower is in use at the most busy season, it is of great value in point of economy, not only making a saving of labor by despatch, but aiding the farmer, in urgent cases, to do his work at the proper time, which is a very important matter. Besides the saving of labor and despatch, which this simple implement aids in accomplishing, it drops the seeds more uniformly than it can be done by hand, thereby saving seed, and giving a better chance for a good crop.

The great objection to root crops is the expense of cultivation; yet so much labor is saved by sowing with a machine, that this process is a mere trifle.

For the New England Farmer.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS.

Mr. Cole. Dear Sir: I observe, in the N. E. Farmer of March 30, a notice of a communication recommending "three grains of corrosive sublimate, and three grains of red precipitate, as a dose for a horse afflicted with horse-ail," stating that "a horse recovered after taking two doses."

Your own remarks, viz., that "there may be cases in which horses have a constitution sufficiently strong to withstand both disease and the effects of unfavorable medicines," are true, and it affords me much pleasure to welcome you into the ranks of the reformers. I have no doubt that the community will find it to their interest to sustain your valuable journal, in the event of your continuing to sustain the non-poison principles.

The blood-letting and poisonous systems of the allopaths have caused great destruction, as many of our farmers, from dear-bought experience, are ready to testify; they demand, and will have, a safer system of veterinary medicine — one that shall cure the ailments of their domestic animals, without entailing misery and degeneration, through the medium of the fleam, firing-iron, scalding mixtures, corrosive sublimate, red precipitate, and a host of other destructive agents. They (the allopaths) conclude that "*disease is an unnatural condition*," and must be met by an unnatural agent; that "corrosive sublimate will destroy life, therefore it must be used to cure." It appears to me that a man does not require more than an ordinary share of common sense to perceive that if "disease is an unnatural condition," it must be met by a natural remedy; one that shall not interrupt the harmony of the vital machinery, when it has free and universal action throughout the whole animal organization.

Again, red precipitate is a powerful depressor of the vital power; the chemico-vital action of the stomach can never assimilate it, except to act pathologically; it is still red precipitate, and always leaves unmistakable evidences of its encroachments on the mucous surfaces.

The theory of making one disease to cure another, as heretofore taught and practised, is just as absurd as knocking a horse's brains out to make him stand still, or bleeding him to death with the vain hope of saving life — a theory that cannot stand the test of common sense. This theory has led to the use of deadly agents, all of which occupy a high rank in the *materia medica* of the allopathic school.

If there is any necessity to do violence to the animal organization in curing disease, then there is some justifiable ground for using the above agents; but if there is not, let every man relinquish the use of agents that have hitherto proved destructive, and resort to those that coöperate with, and not war against, the vitality of the animal economy. The mistaken idea that fever and inflammation are disease, and that all diseases are under the control of the above, and other more or less destructive agents, has led to the universal use of "*scientific remedies*;" remedies that are calculated to kill, instead of cure.

Yours with respect,

GEO. H. DADD, M. D.

Boston, *April* 3, 1850.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have a number of communications on hand, which will appear in our next. That of Mr. Holbrook was rather late for this number, but we have given it a place near the close, as it is on a subject which is now before the farmers for action. We would call particular attention to it, as it shows how a great saving may be made in the cultivation of the carrot crop, which is among the most valuable of roots; and an objection to its cultivation is, that it requires more labor than other root crops.

For the New England Farmer.

CULTIVATION OF THE POTATO.

Mr. Cole: I have been fully compensated for my communication on the potato in a previous number of your paper, by perusing the article which it called forth, from your valuable correspondent, F. Holbrook, of Brattleborough, Vt. With his views as there expressed, from my experience, I have no disposition to differ. That rather light, open, warm soils, inclined to sand or gravel, are the most favorable for the growth of some potatoes, I think no one can dispute. My remarks were made in regard to adapting the soil to the growth of the potato, without any reference to the rot.

You ask my opinion as to the effects of deep and shallow planting, derived from my experience, in regard to the rot. I have never discovered any difference as to the rot. The yield has generally been best, by furrowing the land, say four or five inches deep at planting, and then cultivating nearly level, or making no more hill than would naturally be produced by passing the cultivator between the rows.

As it respects the size of the seed, there is one error which is very common among farmers, and that is, the idea that if they plant below the medium sized, the number must be increased; if not very small, two will answer, but if very small, three or four must be put in the hill. A little examination and reflection will correct this. Small potatoes contain as many eyes as large ones; they are only of a smaller size, and come up with less vigor, and instead of having two, three, or four times as many sprouts crowded together in a hill, the small, feeble sprouts require more nursing, and a soil well fitted to their growth. I am satisfied that one medium-sized, or small potato is all that should be put in the hill provided the hills are of a suitable distance to insure the best crop.

Early planting and early digging have been my best safeguards against the rot, whether on dry or moist soils. Three years ago this spring, I planted a piece of ground with potatoes, well dressed with manure from the barn cellar, mixed with an equal quantity of mud, spread and ploughed in, and a mixture of ashes and plaster put in the hills. The land was sowed with buckwheat the year before, and was in fine condition. The main part was planted with the Carter variety; the crop was abundant, and of large size. A part of them were dug the last day of August, and put into the cellar dry, while the vines were green and thrifty, and were of the very best quality; the remainder were left until the last of September, and more than three quarters of them were affected with the rot. Several other instances have come within my knowledge, with similar results. Yours respectfully,

S. M. STANLEY.

West Attleborough, *April* 3, 1850.

For the New England Farmer.

AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION.

Mr. Cole: The subject of agricultural education has frequently invited my attention, since the first agricultural meetings of the present session of the Massachusetts legislature, when the establishment of an "Agricultural School" was considered, soliciting the aid of the state government. I was led to reflect upon the necessity of the enterprise as an auxiliary to the ordinary means of agricultural education; but I could not see its importance in so clear a light as some others were supposed to see it. Many probably think with me, who would not openly oppose such a school, because they feel that it can do no hurt. I should have been gratified to send you a communication at that time, stating the humble views of one, of its inutility, or, at least, superfluity: but feeling that I was in a very small minority, and not making a vocation of farming or horticulture, I forbore. As I have since noticed the expressions of doubt as to the propriety of establishing such a school, with your indulgence I venture to offer a few thoughts on the subject.

That agricultural education, or information, is not what it is desirable it should be, no one probably will deny; but may not the same be said of all other education, whether of trades or professions? Are not the sources of agricultural education more numerous and open to every one than any other means of education? Can an intelligent man possibly reside in the country without having more accurate ideas of farming than of any thing else, of which he does not take particular pains to investigate? Farmers' sons are *born and brought up* in an agricultural school; and hence, if they intend to become farmers, they are as well prepared for it as a medical student is prepared to practise medicine, after passing through a course of study, and receiving his diploma. If a young man were born and brought up in a medical or law school, and had there studied and *practised* either medicine or law as a vocation from his youth upward, we might safely conclude that his elementary education would be sufficient for the commencement of regular practice. It would be the very best of schooling. But as a knowledge of the professions is not easily obtained in this way, by early theory and practice, schools and academies are necessary. All farms are schools of farming; and are good schools just in proportion as they are extensive or well worked. We can hardly conceive why there should be specific schools for farmers, any more than there should be for carpenters, hatters, shoemakers, &c. If a man wishes his son to learn a trade, he puts him to some good establishment, where the trade is well carried on; and this is the best schooling he can have. If a man wishes his son to become a farmer, who is not one himself, (which is rare,) he puts him upon some good farm, where at least he can *support himself;* and this is as good schooling as the father would desire, or perhaps accept of, should there be less or no compensation offered from other sources.

Now, suppose an agricultural school were founded, largely endowed by the state, with all the necessary appurtenances for practising agriculture upon its most scientific and extended scale, — I am led to inquire, From what sources would it be supplied with students? Here is a farmer with half a dozen sons: one chooses to learn a trade, another to study a profession, another to become a merchant, and so on; one concludes to continue at farming, and keep his father's estate. But would he leave home, and subject himself to expense by attending an agricultural school, for the sake of learning a vocation which he has always studied and practised? Would he not say, "I can learn as much here, with the aid of a few books and agricultural papers, as I can any where else? Why should I leave home for study and the experience of others, when they can be had here for a trifle?" I think farmers and farmers' sons, with very few exceptions, would reason in this way; and this would be fatal to the general utility and self-preservation of an agricultural school. A man who owns no land, yet has sons to obtain a livelihood, would not think of teaching one of them agriculture, as he has no farm to cultivate. He would not put one or more of them to such a school with a view of their becoming overseers of farms, for few such persons are needed in this country, where land is so divided, and where there are so many owners and practical workers; besides, the compensation being

small, compared with what they would expect from other vocations. I never heard of a man, that did not own a farm, who was desirous that his sons should be educated farmers; and some only have consented to their working on farms as a means of their immediate support. If the sons of wealthy men only can, or are to patronize the institution in question, for the sake of acquiring the *theory* of agriculture, with a view of superintending their own estates, upon which they have never learned by experience, then the number will be very limited, its popular usefulness will be fatally held in check, and it will only be known as a failure. I cannot perceive, then, if the above views be correct, how such a school can procure students on the naked ground of agricultural education. 1st. Because farmers' sons profess to know enough already, or can supply their deficit cheaply by books or periodicals; and 2d. Because those who are not farmers' sons, and have no land to cultivate, do not think of becoming farmers, certainly not till late in life, when they may have the means so to do.

But if such an institution should be founded, and succeed in acquiring a sufficient number of students, could it do more for agriculture than is already doing by some of our "model farmers" and scientific nurserymen, who enjoy a well-earned reputation all over the state, and perhaps New England? Are not these enterprising agriculturists and horticulturists doing every thing that science can suggest to advance and improve the cultivation of the soil in all its branches? Are not their establishments the best schools of farming? And are not their instructions scattered, through periodicals, broadcast over the land, so that "he who runs may read"? Besides, if a farm school were established in the central part of the state, would its instructions be generally valuable to those of other localities — that of Cape Cod, of the western counties, &c.? In short, is it reasonable to suppose that its useful experiments would prove so elsewhere, or that those of other cultivators from all sections would not be more satisfactory?

In a word, as before hinted, I cannot conceive that a special agricultural school is more needed than a public state school to teach architecture, sculpture, painting, or any of the various trades of art; and in fact, hardly so much; for these callings make draughts upon the *whole* community, while an agricultural school could only claim the farmers, who, I believe, do not feel the necessity of such instruction in such a manner. The learned professions make great draughts upon the whole community; and young men designed for a profession, feel the necessity of leaving home to seek a fit education, (that which home cannot generally furnish,) in some institution, where they must pass an ordeal of severe study; but those who intend to be cultivators of the soil, having land, and being brought up to it, need no such foreign education, — or at least, it will be difficult to make them think so.

Now who, and whence, are our farmers? Farmers' sons, generally speaking, are averse to agriculture as a vocation, because it seems a drudgery, a mere slave's life. They are therefore eager for some other employment. But the homestead must be retained, and one of the sons generally takes possession of it on the death of the parents, by satisfaction to the heirs, who seek a place elsewhere. This is one source, an hereditary source, of farmers, and one very valuable and permanent. The other source is large — it is made up of retired merchants or mechanics, in advanced life; frequently wealthy, generally competent; sons coming back, perhaps, to purchase a part of the old homestead, and erecting a new cottage; and these are the men who need agricultural education. But will they attend a public institution to acquire this knowledge? No, that would be inconvenient; they purchase books, and subscribe liberally for periodicals; and if they do not become skilful cultivators it is their own fault. Such persons, however, generally exhibit a good deal of zeal; and in fact, they soon take the lead in agriculture, as the beautiful farms of many such gentlemen in the vicinity of Boston will well attest.

Your correspondent "W.," of Middlebury College, Vermont, in No. 7, Vol. II., N. E. Farmer, highly commends (but not too highly) good agricultural papers. In my limited association with farmers, I have heard of many useful facts which I have not seen in print; and hence it is plain to me, that if cultivators were more in the habit of giving their experience to the public, agricultural papers and magazines would be far more useful. The press, after all, is the mainspring of improvement, for it scatters to every part of civilization the experience of the world.

The views which I have given above may be novel and unsound; but they are submitted with deference to your columns, hoping that they may lead to a more general expression on the important topic of agricultural education. L.

Boston, *April* 4, 1850.

Remarks. — We give our correspondent's views, but we do not indorse them. If the practice of farming can be learned from good practical farmers, so can the practice of medicine be gained from an old lady well acquainted with the medical use of herbs, roots, and barks. And if medical schools are necessary for the purpose of giving the student a knowledge of those sciences that aid him in the healing art, so are agricultural schools necessary to instruct the young farmer in those sciences that appertain to his profession. We believe that no one can deny this proposition; for in no calling is a knowledge of so many natural sciences necessary as in that of the farmer, and to him may they be made available, as well as other sciences to other arts. At another time we may give our views more at length on this important subject. — Ed.

For the New England Farmer.

NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS, AND PLANTS.

[Continued from p. 109.]

CULTIVATION OF NATIVE TREES.

The first tree we shall notice is the White Elm, sometimes called the American Elm. This beautiful and magnificent tree is very generally known in New England, and has long been a favorite with all lovers of trees. It is of the most rapid growth, forming, in a few years, quite a tree, even from seed, and bears transplanting better than any other forest tree that I am acquainted with. It should be known by those about to transplant this tree, that as it advances in age, it presents three or four distinct forms of growth. The first is, when it rises tall and erect, and its head forms a flat top, resembling a vase; the second, when it throws up two or more branches to a great height; the third, when it presents somewhat the form of a weeping willow, its branches growing downwards, and almost sweeping the ground; the fourth, when it assumes the form of the sturdy oak. The weeping form of the elm is better adapted to ornament the grounds around a dwelling-house, than to stand by the road-side, as its limbs frequently obstruct the street. The branches of the tall, vase-formed elm, when planted on the opposite sides of a street or avenue, generally meet at the height of

sixty or seventy feet, thus forming a perfect arch of great beauty.

The Red or Slippery Elm is rare in this vicinity: there are a few trees in Wenham Swamp, and some are found in the north part of Essex county. Many trees are destroyed, or greatly injured, by heedless persons, in stripping off their bark for medicinal purposes; and in consequence of their receiving these injuries, they have become rare; and but a few vigorous trees can now be found growing naturally, in this vicinity. This tree is smaller than the White Elm, more upright in its growth, and has a very thick, rough leaf. We have grafted the Slippery and the Cork-bark Elm on the White Elm with good success.

The Maples are all fine trees, and of easy cultivation. The Red Maple is a most beautiful tree, distinguished for its early, scarlet flowers, and the brilliant scarlet or crimson color of its leaves in autumn. It flourishes best under cultivation, in rich, moist land, where it makes a rapid growth. The Rock Maple, if found at all, is a rare tree in this vicinity, except under cultivation. It is an interesting and useful tree, and when planted by the roadside, very ornamental. Several European species of Maples are large, ornamental trees, of easy cultivation, particularly the Sycamore, or great European Maple, Norway Maple, and the Field Maple.

The Tulip-tree, although a native of Massachusetts, is not found in this vicinity, except under cultivation. It is every way very desirable, and should be possessed by every lover of native trees, and deserves general cultivation as an ornamental tree. It is distinguished for its flowers, which resemble the tulip, and its singular truncated leaves, presenting the uncommon appearance of having their ends cut off. We have found it of the most rapid growth, in a rich, moist soil, and readily and easily transplanted. It is a tree of the largest size in the Western States, and is there used for the finishing work of dwelling-houses. It is known by our joiners under the name of whitewood. It is usually to be found in the Boston nurseries, of a suitable size for transplanting.

The American Lime, Linden, or Basswood is sometimes found cultivated as an ornamental tree. It is distinguished for its large, deep green, heart-shaped leaves, its very fragrant flowers, peculiarly attractive to bees; and its rapid growth of white, soft wood. As it affords a deep shade, with a clean, bright green foliage, and fragrant flowers, and as its wood is soft, and possesses but little strength, it is in consequence very liable to have its branches broken by high winds: it appears to be better adapted for planting near and in the vicinity of buildings, thus affording it shelter and protection. Many fine species of the European-Linden trees are now cultivated, and can be obtained at the nurseries.

The most careless observer of trees, in passing through our moist woods, must have observed a rather singular tree, resembling somewhat a large pear-tree, particularly upon viewing its bark. This is the Tupelo, or Gum-tree, a species of the Ny'ssa, a class of trees belonging to the Sandal wood family. We have never seen it under cultivation, although it would no doubt succeed well in a moist soil. It is distinguished for its glossy green leaves, its bright blue twin-bearing fruit, and in autumn, by its leaves becoming an intensely deep scarlet or crimson.

The Scarlet Oak, cultivated upon a lawn, and permitted to stand alone, is a very ornamental tree, of easy culture and rapid growth. It is distinguished from other oaks by its thin, smooth, deeply cut, and polished leaves, which in autumn are changed to a deep crimson, of surpassing richness.

The Black Walnut, which is found in Massachusetts, is a handsome tree, of rapid growth, and of easy cultivation. Mr. Emerson, in his excellent and interesting report of the "Trees and Shrubs of Massachusetts," says, "The Black Walnut unites almost all the qualities desirable in a tree: beauty, gracefulness, and richness of foliage, in every period of its growth; bark and husks, which may be employed in an important art; fruit valuable as food; wood unsurpassed in durability for use, or in elegance for ornament."

The Nettle-tree and the Hackberry are both found in Massachusetts, but have not been seen, to my knowledge, in the county of Essex. We should think they might be successfully cultivated in a suitable soil, which we should judge should be moist and rich. Mr. Emerson says, that "the American Nettle-tree has a strong resemblance to an elm, and is often, by casual observers, mistaken for one. This tree," he says, "might be described to one who wished to be able to recognize it, as an elm, bearing purple, sweet cherries, which continued on the stem through the winter." It is rather a small tree, rising seldom above forty or fifty feet in height, and twenty or twenty-four inches in diameter. Michaux had found it in its greatest vigor on the Savannah, where, in a cool and shady situation, he had seen trees sixty or seventy feet high, and eighteen or twenty inches in diameter. D. J. Browne, who has published a very imperfect work on the trees of America, says, "There is a Celtis occidentalis [the botanical name of the Nettle-tree] in the United States, at Springfield, in Massachusetts, fourteen feet in circumference." This would make a tree about four feet nine inches in diameter. Many persons confound the Celtis occidentalis, or Nettle-tree, with the Celtis crassifolia or Hackberry, sometimes called Hoop Ash. Michaux, speaking of the last-mentioned tree, says, "This is one of the finest trees that compose the dusky forests on the upper part of the Ohio, and is certainly one of the most beautiful trees of its genus."

The Buttonwood, or American Sycamore, is every where well known in New England. It is a noble tree, of rapid growth, and we regret that it has suffered for several years past from a malady, the cause of which is not yet well known. Many trees have been cut down in consequence of being thus injured. The attention of the earlier settlers of New England was called to this tree by the Indians, as will be seen by the following extract from a book published in 1675, by John Josselyn, Gent., entitled a "Relation of Two Voyages to New England." Josselyn was the author of that singular and rare production, "New England's Rarities," being a description of the trees, shrubs, and plants of New England, with rude cuts. Josselyn says, "The Indians tell of a tree that grows far up in the land, that is as big as an oake, that will cure the falling sickness infallibly; what part thereof they use, bark, wood, leaves, or fruit, I could never learn; they promised often to bring of it to me, but did not. I have seen a stately tree, growing here and there in valleys, not like any trees in Europe, haveing a smooth bark, of a dark colour; the leaves like the great Maple in England, called Sycamor, but larger; it may be this is the tree they *brag of*."

S. P. FOWLER.

Danvers New Mills, *April* 6, 1850.

[to be continued.]

For the New England Farmer.

"BONE DISORDER IN COWS."

Mr. Editor: I must again ask the indulgence of the readers of your valuable journal, in attempting to reply to your correspondent, Allen W. Dodge, of Hamilton.

I was not aware before his last communication,

that it was the practice of the farmers in that town to feed out salt hay to their working oxen after they were turned out to pasture; but I knew that many of them fed it to their milch cows after they went to pasture.

I have known milch cows to eat it at that time with greediness, when they would not eat English hay, or lick salt. He asks if it also furnishes the bone material for our oxen. So far as the system of the ox requires the bone material, I think it may; and when the food contains more than the system requires, it passes off in the excrements. This may account for the remark I once heard one of his nearest neighbors make, that he thought the manure made when cattle were fed upon salt hay was better than that made from English hay.

My limited observation and superficial knowledge led me to think that the salt and lime daily deposited upon the marshes by the tide, would cause them to produce hay abounding in phosphate. His information and research led him to think that if the cold and inert soil did not abound in phosphate, the hay would not. I think the soils in many of our old fields where the corn grows, which he says contains so much phosphate of lime, do not abound in it, before the manure is applied.

But if we admit that salt hay does not contain any more phosphate of lime than English, yet the salt, as it passes through the various chemical changes in the stomach of the cow and in the soil, may there form phosphate of lime, so that the soil will not be so much exhausted as where nothing is brought on to the farm from a foreign source.

The expression, "well fed upon good English hay and Indian meal," I used in my first communication, to vindicate my neighbors from the implied reproach cast upon them for not feeding their cows well. When our correspondent said, if cows are well fed, who would ever dream of their bones being disordered.

He says that Indian corn contains seventeen per cent. of phosphate of lime, and then he asks how I will reconcile this fact with my theory.

I will thank him first to refer me to the analysis where it is stated that Indian corn contains so much phosphate of lime; if it is a fact that it contains so much, then I will give my views upon it.

In Dr. Dana's Muck Manual, page 51, it is stated that Indian corn contains one and a half per cent. of phosphate and sulphate of lime, about the same as marsh mud. In the same work, page 132, it says, "and one cow daily produces, in excrements, salts of lime sufficient for half a bushel of corn." If we add to this the phosphate of lime contained in eight quarts of milk, given daily by a cow, we shall see how she may dispose of the phosphate in four quarts of Indian meal per day, which is a good allowance, even if it does contain as much as he says.

In his first communication, Mr. Dodge says, that the soil in one place may be as much exhausted as another, judging from the length of time it has been cultivated. It was my object to show that it did not depend so much upon the time that it had been cultivated as upon the course pursued, in exhausting the animal matter from the soil. I stated that I thought the practice of selling calves to the butcher, would exhaust the soil more of this ingredient than it would to raise cattle as they do in some parts of the country. I did not confine my remark to the county; I admitted the practice was the same in other parts of the country.

I do not understand what he intends by saying "nine tenths of the calves in this part of the country are sold to the butcher. If this exhaust the soil of phosphate of lime in our part of the country, why should it not exhaust it in another?"

Several years ago, I was in the habit of visiting an aged farmer, who resided in the northern part of Middlesex county. He prided himself much upon the good appearance of his cows. I was there in May of 1846. Speaking of his cows, he said that for two or three years past, they had not done so well as formerly after they calved; and this year they are worse than ever; "they are sick, but I do not know what ails them." His daughter said, "Perhaps your hay is not so good as it used to be." He said it could not be that, for his oxen were fed upon the same kind of hay, and they did well. He said he was ashamed of his cows, they were so poor, but he could not help it; it was not because he did not feed them well; he gave them as much meal as he did his oxen — four quarts of Indian meal each per day. His oxen were good beef, the cows so poor that they could scarcely get up alone: their appearance was the same as that described in the American Veterinarian, page 224. He showed me the hay. It was what is generally considered hearty hay, such as grows upon bound out land. For many years there had not been any hay, grain, or manure brought on to the farm. The principal crops sold were hops, oats, and the produce of the dairy. I will not draw any inference.

Absurd and visionary as your correspondent thinks this whole theory to be, it is not the language of exaggeration to say, that the information published in the Massachusetts Ploughman, which led to the use of bone meal for this disorder, has been of more practical advantage to several farmers in this neighborhood than all the other agricultural information published for the last twenty-five years.

There are some things connected with this theory which we cannot now fully explain; but it is founded upon a very simple principle — that a milch cow requires more phosphate of lime than a dry one. If it can be shown that she does not, then I will reject it.

If he will tell us how the fat and muscle waste away when an animal does not receive sufficient food, then, perhaps, we shall be able to tell him how the bones waste away when they do not receive proper nourishment.

So long as we find this disorder confined to those farms where there has been a course of cultivation pursued that would most exhaust the phosphate of lime, and the oxen and dry cows do well, the milch cows become diseased, and when bone meal is given to them, they recover, the natural inference is, that the disorder is caused by the want of phosphate of lime. I may not draw any inference so legitimately as to command the assent of your correspondent upon this subject.

WILLIAM P. PUTNAM.

North Danvers, *April 5*, 1850.

Remarks. — We believe, as our correspondent has shown, that on old farms, where cows are kept for the dairy, the land becomes exhausted of bone earth, or phosphate of lime, so that it does not supply fodder having a usual quantity of this ingredient. The consequence is, that there is a want of phosphate of lime to supply the milk with one ounce of this material to every twenty gallons, according to chemical analysis, and that a further supply is necessary to support the bones and system generally.

In some cases farmers have changed their dairy business to that of raising stock, in consequence of the bone disorder among their cows; and instead of sick cows, they have had healthy animals.

Now, it seems, that we have found the cause and cure of this disease, and the symptoms also; and the only question is, whether the disease is rightly named. If not, will some pathologist explain the subject and assign the proper name? — Ed.

RED SHANGHAE FOWLS.

For the New England Farmer.

Mr. Editor: The Red Shanghae fowls have, within the last three years, been introduced into the New England States, from Shanghae, a port in China, but recently opened to the commercial world, situated on the River Moosong, north-east from Canton: the climate corresponds with that of Baltimore or Philadelphia.

In the year 1848, Capt. A. S. Palmer, of Rhode Island, imported direct from Shanghae the red and white varieties, and in the same year, Capt. Daniel S. Fuller imported the Red Shanghae, which resembled those imported by Capt. Palmer, so nearly as not to be easily distinguished, when placed together in the same yard. In 1849, a gentleman of this city, Daniel G. Bacon, Esq., imported, in the ship Vancouver, some Red Shanghaes for his own yard.

The portraits, which head this article, were engraved from a drawing made by Mr. S. E. Brown, of this city, of a pair of the imported fowls last mentioned. The cock has a large, upright, single comb, deeply indented; the wattles are large; the neck is long, and is covered with hackles of a dark golden color, extending to the upper part of the back; the hackles on the rump are of a dark reddish yellow color, and are long and drooping. The feathers of the tail are black, shaded with a dark and glossy green; those on the under part of the body are of a pale yellow color, intermingled with black feathers; the breast is covered with dark red and black feathers, and the legs of the cock, which are stout and short, are covered to the toes with downy feathers, of a light buff color. The voice of the cock is coarse and harsh, resembling more a croak than the clear ringing notes of fowls of other breeds.

The form of the hen is correctly shown by the engraving; the neck is covered with dark brown hackles, and the feathers on all other parts of the body are of a dark brown color, tipped with the most glossy black. The comb and wattles are small, and the tail is short and small. In the background are introduced the head and neck of a young cock but four months old, the progeny of the imported cock and hen, which now weighs eight and a half pounds. These fowls are now in the possession of Mr. John Fussell, of Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Among the first importations, and prior to those of Captains Palmer and Fuller, was that of Capt. Forbes in 1848. Of the Captain Forbes stock, a writer in the Massachusetts Ploughman, Dr. J. C. Bennet, of Plymouth, Mass., says, "Capt. Forbes imported sixteen pairs, and a great proportion of them were of mixed blood. *With the exception of one lot,* none of the pullets of this breed which have been forwarded to me as full bloods have proved to be more than three quarters blooded, and some of them only half bloods! This probably arises from the fact, that a part of the original importation were impure." Most of the hens of Capt. Forbes's importation have dark chestnut-colored hackles on the neck; the body is covered with feathers of a light buff color.

The following is an extract from a letter written by Mr. Christopher B. Marsh, of West Roxbury, Mass., giving an account of the Red Shanghaes imported by Capt. Fuller.

Mr. Marsh says, "I have one rooster and two hens, which Capt. Daniel S. Fuller brought out from Shanghae in May, 1848.

"The rooster and one of the hens, with some of their progeny, were exhibited at the Norfolk Agricultural Fair in Dedham, Oct. 1849, and obtained the highest premium. They were also presented at the exhibition of fowls at the Public Garden, Boston, Nov. 1849. The rooster was admitted to be the largest among the great numbers and varieties shown on the occasion. Probably there is not his equal in this country. The hens have thus far done themselves great credit as layers; they are very domestic

and peaceable. The chickens have been noted for health, and also an *ability*, as well as a disposition, to take care of themselves, for while young they are active and 'self-helping little things;' and as proof that they well know how to take care of themselves, I will instance, that though I have taken them from the mother when only two or three weeks old, they have uniformly done well, and throve finely; as well as any chickens I have ever kept.

"The hens, very soon after their chickens are taken away, resume laying. In one instance, one of the imported hens laid the fourth day after her chickens were taken from her, (the chicks being two weeks old;) and she laid between forty and fifty eggs before showing a disposition to sit: not being allowed to sit, she resumed laying again in about a week.

"I have now five chickens, five weeks old; and notwithstanding the season, December, January, have never known chickens hatched at any season of the year do better than these have.

"The rooster weighs to-day, Jan. 17, 1850, *twelve and a half pounds*; the hen that was imported with him, weighs eight and a half pounds; one of her chickens, seven months old, weighs seven and a half pounds, and is probably as fine a specimen of the Shanghae hen as can be found.

"Of the first chickens raised from those imported, four pullets were wintered over; they began to lay the first of February, and they have been either laying or sitting almost continually from that time to this. One has chickens now, five weeks old, two are sitting, and the other still laying.

"Three of them laid forty-four eggs from December 24, 1849, to January 10, 1850. I have but two pullets of last summer chickens; one of them has laid her third egg to-day, and will be eight months old to-morrow, January 18, and weighs seven pounds. The other will probably lay soon; she is seven months old, and weighs seven and a half pounds, as mentioned above."

These fowls, so far as they have been bred from the stock of Capt. Palmer's and Fuller's importation, have not fallen off in size or weight. Capt. Francis Alden, of Dedham, Mass., has some thirty Shanghaes, descendants from Capt. Fuller's importation, of great uniformity of size, form, and plumage; the cocks weighing at eight months old eleven pounds, and pullets of the same age of eight pounds weight. Mr. B. W. Balch, of Dedham, Mass., has a large stock of Red Shanghaes; several of his pullets weigh nine pounds each. Messrs. Alden and Balch give accounts of the prolificness of this breed similar to that of Mr. Marsh. The appearance of these fowls when young is awkward and ungainly in the extreme, not being covered with feathers until nearly six months old. One peculiarity of these fowls is, that the cocks do not show even the rudiments of the feathers of the tail until they are more than half grown.

The flesh of the Shanghae is rich and juicy, well intermixed with fat of a most agreeable flavor; and for making capons, they are quite equal to any other breed known in the New England States. It is very much to be regretted any fowls of impure blood should have been imported, as it has the tendency to cause many persons to condemn the pure bred fowl, which, all accounts agree, is possessed of many desirable qualities, and are prolific to an extraordinary degree.

It is stated in the Massachusetts Ploughman, that Mr. Phillips, of Marshfield, Mass., had a pullet of this breed, which laid one hundred and twenty eggs in one hundred and twenty-five days; then stopped laying for six days; then laid sixteen eggs; ceased laying four days, commenced again, and continued to lay regularly; showing that this breed is more prolific than any other known in this country.

In 1847, Capt. Lockwood, of the ship Tartar, of Philadelphia, brought from Shanghae a smaller variety of fowls, which are now in the possession of a gentleman residing at Kensington, Philadelphia, to whom the writer is indebted for the following description:—

"You are innocently in error with regard to the Shanghaes and Cochins which I have. The small boned, and but slightly feathered on the legs, were brought from the city of Shanghae, by Capt. Lockwood, commanding the ship Tartar, of this port, in the summer of 1847. They are pure, or have all the characteristics of a pure and distinct breed; weigh from fifteen to sixteen pounds per pair; lay well, and are easily raised."

He describes the other variety as follows:—

"The other fowls are in some respects different. They were imported in the ship Huntress, of New York, by Mr. Taylor, in May, 1847, and cost, in Shanghae, ten dollars per pair; quite too much for fowls to *that manor born*, which induces me to believe that they belong *farther south*; hence, I call them Cochin Chinas. They were landed in the early part of May, were rather sickly in consequence of having been so long from the ground; and yet, from that time till the following October, the hen laid forty-eight eggs, and hatched out two broods. The last, brought out in October, consisted of twelve chicks, of which ten were raised through the winter. They are therefore prolific and hardy; think you not so?

"How far poultry may be *crossed* in the *East, previous to importation*, I have no means of knowing. If they are there preserved pure and unmixed, then I have *two* distinct *breeds*; viz., the importation (small boned, and comparatively smooth legged, answering very much, in most respects, to some of the thousand and one discording descriptions of the Queen's Cochin Chinas,) per ship Tartar, in 1847, Capt. Lockwood; and the *larger* fowl, *heavily* feathered on the legs, and weighing, per pair, from eighteen to twenty-two pounds, imported per ship Huntress, in 1847. Of this latter breed, about one half of the number of *cocks* come a *peculiar Dominique*, the rest *red*, with some black mixed; the hens always either a light or dark *bay* color. Of the two importations, the laying and breeding qualities are about equal, the chief difference being in plumage, weight, and feathers on the legs." Yours, &c.,

S. BRADFORD MORSE, Jr.

TO WOOL-GROWERS.

It is my intention to attend the great Industrial Fair at London, in the summer of 1851. I wish to contribute, on my part, samples of American wool, and shall do so, whether I go or not. I should like a few fleeces from some of the best flocks in the Union, so that I can make up about 100 lbs. of each sample. The fine wool I want washed as clean as possible on the sheep, and put up in the best manner. It must be of this clip, as the next will be too late. It will be sorted at the Depot, and duplicates of the sorts kept, so that a proper estimate can be formed, after we have received a report from the committee who may examine it there. It will afford an excellent opportunity to compare our wool with German and other foreign wools, and cannot but be favorable to the growers.

Editors of agricultural and other papers are respectfully requested to copy this notice.

T. C. PETERS.

Buffalo Wool Depot, *April* 1, 1850.

— *Wool-Grower.*

Sheep abhor rains and wet in winter. These injure them more than cold or dry snow.

Domestic Department.

Country Girls. — Mrs. Swisshelm, of the Pittsburg Visitor, has written some very fine things. We extract the following from her *Letters to Country Girls*: —

"Well, girls, I know that, let others do as they will, you have to work; for if you do not, you would not be worthy the name of country girls. The drawling concerns, who lounge round reading novels, lisping about the fashions and gentility, thumping some poor hired piano until it groans again, and putting on airs to catch husbands, while their mothers are toiling and boiling in the kitchen, are not often met in the country. This class of girls are generally confined to cities; and you would be surprised to know how many of them are here. There are hundreds of girls in every large city who parade the streets in feathers, flowers, silks, and laces, whose hands are soft and white as uselessness can make them, whose mothers keep boarders to get a living for their idle daughters. These mothers will cook, sweep, wait on table, carry loads of marketing, do the most menial drudgery, toil late and early, with very little more clothing than would be allowed to a southern slave, while their hopeful daughters spend their mornings lounging in bed, reading some silly book, taking lessons in music and French, fixing finery, and the like. The evenings are devoted to dressing, displaying their charms and accomplishments to the best advantage, for the wonderment and admiration of knights of the yardstick, and young aspirants for professional honors — doctors without patients, lawyers without clients — who are as brainless and soulless as themselves. After a while, the piano-pounding simpleton captivates a tape-measuring, law-expounding, or pill-making simpleton. The two ninnies spend every cent that can be raised by hook or by crook — get all that can be got on credit, in broadcloth, satin, flowers, lace, carriage, attendance, &c., hang their empty pockets on somebody's chair, lay their empty heads on somebody's pillow, and commence their empty life with no other prospect than living at somebody's expense — with no other purpose than living genteelly, and spiting their neighbors. This is a synopsis of the lives of thousands of street and ball-room belles, perhaps some of whose shining costumes you have envied from a passing glance. Thousands of women in cities dress elegantly on the streets, who have not a sufficiency of wholesome food, a comfortable bed, or fire enough to warm their rooms."

To preserve Milk. — If milk be introduced into bottles, then well corked and put into cold water, and gradually raised to the boiling point, and after being allowed to cool, be taken out and put away in a cool place, the milk may be kept perfectly sweet for half a year; or it may be evaporated to dryness, by a gentle heat and under constant stirring. A dry mass will thus be obtained, which, when dissolved in hot water, is said to possess all the qualities of the best milk.

Nutritious Bread. — Boil half a pound of rice in three pints of water, till the whole becomes thick and pulpy. With this and yeast, and six pounds of flour, make your dough. In this way, it is said as much bread will be made, as if eight pounds of flour, without the rice, had been used. — *Am. Agriculturist.*

Science strengthens and enlarges the mind.

Youth's Department.

Few of the youth in the country, we fear, appreciate or improve the advantages they enjoy — particularly those afforded by the long winter evenings. The youth in our cities, at most trades, have to labor as long, and longer, in the winter than at any other season. The evenings are not their own, but their employers'. In the country the winter is a season of leisure. The farmer's son and daughter employ the evenings as best suit their inclination. What an opportunity this affords for mental improvement! — a rare chance to gain that knowledge which shall prepare them for respectability and usefulness in the world. A young man, by the assistance of such books as all can procure, in three or four winters can lay up a stock of knowledge that shall prepare him to act well his part as a farmer and citizen — a knowledge that will give him an influence over less intelligent neighbors, and if rightly used, will advance the best interest of the country, and the good of all.

It is for every young man and every young woman to decide whether this golden opportunity shall be improved — these evenings well spent; or whether they shall be wasted, or worse than wasted, in idleness and frivolity. We would not detract from your pleasures — far from it; the pleasures of knowledge surpass any pleasure afforded by the too common amusement of the young. The fields of science afford solid pleasure — they furnish new sources of delight at every onward movement — they are strewn with flowers at every step. The pleasure of science is, perhaps, the only earthly exception to the words of the poet, that,

"Each pleasure has its poison, too."

In the pages of the Farmer we can only hope to arrest the attention of the *youth*, and then bid them go on, furnishing them facilities, as far as possible, to help them search for knowledge — ever holding up the encouragement that *industry* and *perseverance* in a right cause insure success. — *Genesee Farmer.*

Health Department.

Causes of Diseases of Children. — It appears from the annual registers of the dead, that about one half the children born, die under twelve years of age. To many, indeed, this may appear a natural evil; but on due examination, it will be found to be one of our creating. Were the deaths of infants a natural evil, other animals would be as liable to die young as man; but this, we find, is by no means the case.

It may seem strange that man, notwithstanding his superior reason, should fall so far short of other animals in the management of his young. But our surprise will soon cease, if we consider that brutes, guided by instinct, never err in this respect; while man, trusting solely to art, is seldom right. Were a catalogue of those children who perish annually by art alone, exhibited to public view, it would astonish most people.

If parents are above taking care of their children, others must be employed for that purpose. These will always endeavor to recommend themselves by the appearance of extraordinary skill and address. By this means, such a number of unnecessary and destructive articles have been introduced into the diet, clothing, &c., of infants, that it is no wonder so many of them perish.

Nothing can be more preposterous than a mother who thinks it below her to take care of her own child; or who is so ignorant as not to know what is proper to be done for it. If we search nature throughout, we cannot find a parallel to this. Every other creature is the nurse of its own young, and they thrive accordingly. Were the brutes to bring up their young by proxy, they would share the same fate with those of the human species.

It is indeed to be regretted, that more care is not bestowed in teaching the proper management of children to those whom nature has designed for mothers. This, instead of being made a principle, is seldom considered as any part of female education. Is it any wonder, when females so educated come to be mothers, that they should be quite ignorant of the duties belonging to that character? However strange it may appear, it is certainly true, that many mothers, and those of fashion too, are as ignorant, when they bring a child into the world, what to do for it, as the infant itself. Indeed, the most ignorant of the sex are generally reckoned most knowing in the business of nursing. Hence sensible people become dupes of ignorance and superstition, and the nursing of children, instead of being conducted by reason, is the result of whim and caprice.

Were the time that is generally spent by females in the acquisition of trifling accomplishments, employed in learning how to bring up their children; how to dress them so as not to hurt, cramp, or confine their motions; how to feed them with wholesome and nourishing food; how to exercise their tender bodies, so as best to promote their growth and strength; — were these made the objects of female instruction, mankind would derive the greatest advantages from it. But while the education of females implies little more than what relates to dress and public show, we have nothing to expect from them but ignorance, even in the most important concerns.

Did mothers reflect on their own importance, and lay it to heart, they would embrace every opportunity of informing themselves of the duties which they owe to their infant offspring. It is their province, not only to form the body, but also to give the mind its most early bias. They have it very much in their power to make men healthy or valetudinary, useful in life, or the pests of society.

But the mother is not the only person concerned in the management of children. The father has an equal interest in their welfare, and ought to assist in every thing that respects either the improvement of the body or mind.

It is a pity that men should pay so little regard to this matter. Their negligence is one reason why females know so little of it. Woman will ever be desirous to excel in such accomplishments as recommend them to the other sex. But men generally keep at such a distance from even the smallest acquaintance with the affairs of the nursery, that many think it is an affront, were they supposed to know any thing of them. Not so, however, with the kennel or the stables: a gentleman of the first rank is not ashamed to give directions concerning the management of his dogs or horses, yet would blush were he surprised in performing the same office for that being who derived its existence from himself, who is the heir of his fortunes, and the future hope of his country.

It is really astonishing that so little attention should in general be paid to the preservation of infants. What labor and expense are daily bestowed to prop an old tottering carcass for a few years, while thousands of those who might be useful in life, perish without being regarded! Mankind are too apt to value things according to their present, not their future usefulness. Though this be of all others the most erroneous method of estimation, yet upon no other principle is it possible to account for the general indifference with respect to the death of infants. — *Selected.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

Superior Red Ink. — Take a small quantity of the best carmine, about the size of a pea, and put it into a small phial with a little spirit of hartshorn to dissolve it. When dissolved, put as much pure water in it as will give it the desired shade, and then let the bottle not be corked for some time, to allow the hartshorn to evaporate, when it is ready for use. This ink is very permanent, and does not change its color.

The common red ink is made by boiling brazil wood, taking the strong solution and adding to it a small quantity of dissolved alum. It looks all the better to have a few drops of the muriate of tin added to the liquor; not too much, however, or it will injure the pen. A quill is the only pen to use red ink with. If a small quantity of sumac and quercitron bark be boiled along with the brazil wood, it makes the ink still better — of a scarlet shade. Brazil wood itself is rather on the blue shade. For common purposes, we advise those who use much red ink, and make it themselves, not to forget the sumac at least; but a very small quantity will suffice. The liquor should be strained through a cloth as soon as it is boiled, and when cold, bottled and kept well closed in the bottle. — *Scientific American.*

Repulsions. — Steel and Water. — Dr. Dalton, in his philosophical experiments, says, "If a blade of a well-polished knife be dipped into a basin of cold water, the particles of each of those two bodies do not seem to come in contact with each other; for when the blade is taken out, the water slides off, leaving the blade quite dry, as if it had previously been smeared with any greasy substance.

"In the same way, if a common sewing needle be laid horizontally on a glass of water, it will not sink, but form a kind of trench on the surface, on which it lies and floats about. This proceeds from the little attraction which exists between the cold water and the polished steel. It is necessary that both the knife, in the last experiment, and also the needle, should be dry and clean; otherwise the effect will not be produced."

Useful Hints. — I annex a few items of information for my brother farmers, which may be of some use to them, having satisfied myself of their value upon my own farm.

A Beautiful Fire-proof Cement. — The French use a cement to protect the roofs and walls of their outbuildings from taking fire, composed of the following materials: —

Lime sufficient for a bucketful of whitewash; mix with a pailful of water, and add two and a half pounds of brown sugar, and three pounds of salt; stir them well together, and the "cement" is completed. Coloring matters, such as lampblack, yellow ochre, or any other paint which will resist the action of the lime, may be added to suit the fancy of those who use it. This cement is said to afford perfect security against sparks. It is very durable, and does not require to be renewed oftener than once in four or five years. It is also ornamental. By mixing lampblack with a little Spanish brown, a hue is given to the roofs very nearly resembling slate.

LABOR A NECESSITY AND DUTY.

BY NELSON SIZER.

Man is by nature a being of labor. His mental and physical constitution is wisely adapted to labor, and he never fulfils his destiny, and obeys the laws of his being, without it. Almost as soon as the child can raise its head, it begins to shadow forth this inherent element — he labors. That which in the child we call play, is his labor; and most earnestly and faithfully does he perform it. Nothing would change the habits of the child as he advances in life, but the unsound public sentiment which writes disgrace on the perspiring brow of labor.

As well might we shut out the light of day from the young as to deprive them of labor — they will work. If taught that useful labor is disreputable, they will seek sports of questionable moral tendency, on which to work off their surplus vitality and muscular energy; and the world as well as themselves are deprived of all the usefulness which so much wasted labor might have produced.

Labor is an effort of the mind and body exercised to produce some useful result. It is valuable wholly for its benefit to sentient beings, particularly to the human race. Nearly all that is produced by labor is the result of the industrious toil of about one half of the race; the balance are mere consumers, drone-bees in the hive of human society, who prey upon the products of industry, lessen the aggregate of human comfort, and do little or nothing to compensate society for their sustenance. It is therefore not only unnatural and dishonorable to live a life of useless, unproductive existence, but it is mean in the extreme; it is social robbery; piracy upon the products of the industrious world. No person has a right to live without a valuable contribution to the general stock of mind, morals, or money. The world supports him, and he owes it, in return, the efforts of his mind or muscles in the production of the useful and the true. To refuse to do this, in a moral point of view, is robbery. The idiotic, the insane, and the imbecile, are excusable — none others.

If man would take lessons of industry from the whole world of organic and inorganic matter, and carry out, as he should do, the indication thus written in the practical language of action, useful, laborious, universal action, the race of idlers and non-producers would, by reformation, cease to burden and disgrace the earth. Nature is one great workshop. The tides and winds, electricity and magnetism, chemical and geological combinations and changes, the formation and developments of organic life, are all specimens of incessant industry, evolving results of omnipotent importance. Shall a part of the noblest of God's work, man, be the only exception to this great law of industry? Shall earth, air, and sea, be instinct of life, action, unmitigated action; and every species of animal, from the animacule to the elephant, exert an earnest industry, and man, having more wants than any animal in existence, be either too proud or too indolent to labor? It is wrong and unnatural to be idle, or uselessly employed; it is a libel on existence. It should, therefore, be regarded, as it truly is, disgraceful. — *Farmer and Mechanic.*

PLANT THE BEST.

Mr. Editor: My motto is, and my advice to every farmer is, Always propagate from the best. The effects of this rule, and of care in cultivation, are wonderfully exemplified in the history of almost every production of value at present to be found either in the garden or upon the farm. Indeed, scarcely a single vegetable known either to the gardener or farmer at this day, can be found in its pristine state.

Wheat is a factitious production; and so are barley, rye, and hemp. Rice and oats are also never found wild; they are, together with the afore-mentioned grains, the result of careful culture, graduated upon principles of science and enlightened effort. The potato — one of our most valuable, and, perhaps, salutary of all our edible esculents — is a native of Chili and Monte Video, and is there a small, bitter, and disgustingly nauseating root. Cabbage, celery, and asparagus, likewise owe their present reputation and consequence in the vegetable world simply to the efforts of enlightened art. In their natural and unameliorated state, they are wholly worthless for purposes of food, either for man or beast.

The pear, the peach, the apple, plum, and apricot equally attest the effects of artistic skill and effort in improving the wild, insipid fruits of nature. In the floral kingdom, the results are even more remarkable. Not only have the various species of flowers been greatly improved, in numberless instances, by scientific cultivation, but there are cases in which individuals may almost be said to have been created. That they are susceptible of wonderful and almost endless improvement, no one who has witnessed the magical influences of art, can for a moment doubt. Nor is this all. In the animal kingdom, we have witnessed results which, in the days of the old Cotton Mather, would have condemned the person who had been instrumental in their consummation to the dungeon, or, more probably, to the stocks! An individual in Massachusetts recently announced through the public journals, that he was prepared to breed to order any color or form of animals that might be desired. If animals purely white were desired, he could produce them. Any peculiarity of formation, or physiological development named, he would guaranty to secure, or ask nothing for his toil.

By selecting the best animals for breeders, and reserving them to propagate from, a farmer may exalt the character and consequently the value of his flocks and herds, to almost any extent desired. But this, unfortunately, is not the practice pursued by most breeders. The superior price which good animals always command in the markets of this country, and that short-sighted policy, originating oftentimes in the most sordid avariciousness of mind, which leads men to sacrifice future rewards to present gains, induces the owner to sell his best stock, and retain the meaner and less excellent animals on his farm.

The same policy, also, is often blindly adopted in reference to grains. The fullest wheat is often sold, instead of being reserved for seed; and what is the legitimate result? Any one can answer. It is too obvious to every person, to require a reply.

A PRACTICAL FARMER.

Bald Eagle Farm, *April* 1, 1850.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

CHARRING BUTS OF POSTS.

We take occasion, says the American Farmer, as the spring is now upon us, and fences will have to be constructed and repaired, to commend to the favor of our agricultural friends the practice of *charring* the *but-ends* of posts, before inserting them in the ground. We advise that the but-ends of posts be charred sufficiently far to leave about *four* inches of a part so treated above ground. That the durability of posts thus prepared will be greatly prolonged, we have not the slightest doubt — nay, we believe that it will make one post last as long as three would, that had been planted without such previous preparation, and that *any wood* susceptible of being wrought

into posts, can by this process be rendered comparatively durable. Our reasons for this opinion are these: 1. Charcoal, being indestructible, is not liable to be acted upon disadvantageously by heat and moisture, those active agents in the process of decay; 2. Charcoal, though possessing great affinity for moisture, is a bad conductor of heat; and therefore it is not to be presumed that it would, in this connection, exert an injurious office upon the interior of the wood beyond the charred part, because the necessary degree of heat and moisture, to excite and carry on decomposition, would not be present; and 3. Because the very process of charring the but-end would expel a considerable quantity of water and sap in the body of the posts, and thus relieve them, in a great degree, of the presence of the agent by which rottenness, when operated upon by heat, is most generally brought about. Therefore, if you deprive the post of the cause of decay, as a consequence you must assure its preservation through a very great length of time.

LARGE VS. SMALL CHEESES.

The Ashtabula Telegraph, speaking of the great decline in the price of cheese in the northern part of Ohio, the last season, attributes it to the large size of the cheeses.

"It is stated by one of our most intelligent and cautious merchants, that his experience of New York prices of cheese, acquired during his fall visit to make purchases, settled in his mind, conclusively, the form and weight of cheese intended for export or for city use. He found, on inquiry at the highest sources, that while five and a half cents was the top price for our large-sized cheese, the small sizes, say from ten to twenty pounds, were quick of sale at nine and nine and a half cents. This, he declared, was a fact worth knowing by a country merchant in the habit of buying cheese, and it is a fact worth knowing by those who make cheese. Large cheeses, however skilfully and carefully made and kept, are bad travellers. The principle of decomposition is inherent in every cheese, and nothing but dryness can arrest it; but in large dairies this degree of dryness is difficult of attainment — is seldom attained. What is called *heaving* in cheese is simply fermentation; and this is the first step to decomposition, which is inevitable, after the *heaving* has once occurred. The great losses heretofore sustained by foreign merchants — purchasers of large cheese — have made them shy of the article, and their loss of character has led to their fall in value. — *Exchange.*

Remarks. — Although the above facts may be true commercially, which we can hardly believe, yet we can never subscribe to the doctrine, that small cheeses are better and worth more than large ones. *There never was nor ever will be a good cheese made, of only ten or twelve pounds weight* — a position that every connoisseur and real judge of a good article will at once endorse.

It cannot in fact be otherwise, for it is self-evident, that the entire value of cheese depends upon a secondary fermentation, a stage approaching to putrefaction — a ripening and thorough conversion, from the tasteless pulp of the first curdy matter, to that peculiar state that causes cheese to be *cheese.*

The small cheeses dry, and never reach the stage of proper ripening; while large ones possess the bulk, moisture, and heat consequent on fermentation, to carry out the chemical decomposition necessary to perfect the true article.

It may be true that small cheeses sell best, and are the safer articles to transport, and more convenient and within the means of the majority of purchasers; but that ever a small cheese was as good as a large one, say those of forty pounds, and within the ability of proper handling in the making, must be set down as utterly heterodox.

The only possible excuse for forming such an opinion, must be predicated on the fact that we use our large cheeses at least one year too soon; they are not ripe, and passed through the fermenting stages, and arrived at the age of perfection — while the small ones become as good as they ever can be in a few months. — *Rural New-Yorker.*

THE OSWEGO BEURRE PEAR.

Mr. P. Barry: In accordance with a promise made to you last fall, when I presented you specimens of the Oswego Beurre, I will give some further history of this pear, the result of three years' experience, since it was described by Mr. Downing, in the January number of the Horticulturist for 1847. I ate my last specimen the 19th of February inst. They were kept till this late period of winter, by packing in boxes with shorts. Every week, during the winter, previous to this date, I have eaten them, either baked or raw. Last fall a portion of the crop was kept on the tree much later than on any former year. My specimens were sound during December and January. The last, eaten the 19th of this month, was about one third decayed on one side, sound at the core, and retained the peculiar flavor of the variety well. If the Oswego Beurre be allowed to remain on the tree till a sufficiently late period in the fall, I believe it may be relied upon in this latitude, both for the table and for cooking, from the middle of October to the last of January.

From the fact that nearly all of the specimens heretofore tested by pomologists have been picked before fully grown, it has been pronounced an acid pear. Mr. J. J. Thomas, in the last edition of the Fruit Culturist, has very honestly, no doubt, said of the Oswego Beurre, it is "regarded as fully first-rate by those who like the vinous flavor of the Brown Beurre or Beurre d'Aremberg." I ate a specimen of the Oswego Beurre with a Beurre d'Aremberg, on the first of January last, and found them nearly as far apart in flavor as the Lady Sweeting and Rhode Island Greening apples, tested at the same time.

Mr. N. Goodsell, the pioneer promologist, of Western New York, who ate specimens with me last Christmas, pronounced it one of the most saccharine pears he ever tasted. From the early and profuse bearing of this saccharine pear, I believe it would be the most profitable article to cultivate, (whether pomonal or vegetable,) for the purpose of manufacturing sugar.

Although a handsome pear, and uniformly fair, it has less of beauty than its parent, the White Doyenne. It has the red cheek occasionally of the latter, and approaches it nearer, in general form, than Mr. Downing's cut would indicate. Beauty excepted, it has been pronounced by the Fruit Committee of our Horticultural Society here, superior to that "ne plus ultra of perfection in flavor and beauty," the White Doyenne, or Virgalieu.

J. W. P. ALLEN.

Oswego, *Feb.* 27, 1850.

We may add, that, from our own experience, the Oswego Beurre proves a vigorous and beautiful grower, and an early and prolific bearer, both on pear and quince. — Ed. — *Genesee Farmer.*

THE PASTURAGE OF BEES.

Next to the situation of the bee-hive is the consideration of the bees' pasturage. When there is plenty of the white Dutch clover — sometimes called

honeysuckle — it is sure to be a good honey year. The red clover is too deep for the proboscis of the common bee, and is, therefore, not so useful to them as is generally supposed. Many lists have been made of bee-flowers, and of such as should be planted round the apiary. Mignonette, and borage, and rosemary, and burgloss, and lavender, the crocus for the early spring, and the ivy flowers for the late autumn, might help to furnish a very pretty bee garden; and the lime and the liquid amber, the horse-chestnut and the sallow, would be the best trees to plant around. Dr. Bevan makes a very good suggestion, that lemon-thyme should be used as an edging for garden walks and flower-beds, instead of box, thrift, or daisies. That any material good, however, can be done to a large colony by the few plants, that, under the most favorable circumstances, can be sown around a bee-house, is, of course, out of the question. The bee is too much of a roamer to take pleasure in trim gardens. It is the wild tracts of heath and furze, the broad acres of bean fields and buckwheat, the lime avenues, the hedgerow flowers, and the clover meadows, that furnish his haunts and fill his cell. Still it may be useful for the young and weak bees to have food as near as possible to their home; and to those who wish to watch their habits, a plat of bee flowers is indispensable. — *Am. Traveller.*

PROFITABLE COWS.

Mrs. Hines gives the following account, which shows her superior skill both in managing cows and the dairy. We copy from the Greenfield Gazette, to which Mrs. H. has been a subscriber twenty years, and has always paid her subscription promptly, which is another commendable trait.

I have five cows, and have sold, the past season, 1300 lbs. of butter, besides milk, cream, and butter for the family use. Our family will average eight. I raised seven calves last spring; some of them quite early calves, and some late; two of them I got of my neighbors. I have fatted 768 lbs. of pork, mostly on the sour milk. Now, let us leave out one of the cows for the family use, and set the credit to the other four — say 1300 divided by 4 makes 325 lbs. to each cow; the butter sold averaging 16½ cents; 325 lbs. at 16½ cents makes $53 62 to each cow. The seven calves were worth $30, say $25 to the four cows; and five hundred of the pork, at $6, will be $30; and the $25 for the calves, makes $55, divided by 4, leaves $13 75 to each cow; this added to $53 62, will make $67 37 to each cow.

My cows are about middling sized, and of the native breed. They have a good pasture in summer, and good hay in winter, and that is all; except in winter, I sometimes give Old Brindle a few small apples and potatoes, parings, and the like, to make her hold out her milk till some of the others come in. When I see any thing in the butter line in your paper that beats the above, I will try again.

MIRANDA HINES.

Munroe, *Feb.* 18, 1850.

Industry. — Excellence is never granted to man, but as the reward of labor. It argues, indeed, no small strength of mind to persevere in the habits of industry without the pleasure of perceiving those advantages, which, like the hand of a clock, whilst they make hourly approaches to their point, yet proceed so slowly as to escape observation.

RED RUSSET APPLE.

A few years ago we received specimens of this apple in April; they were in fine condition, and very promising. The next year we received a few, and kept them into summer. The next year (1848) we obtained a barrel of this fruit to give it a fair test, and placed it by the side of a barrel of fine Roxbury Russets. Both kept equally well, extending into summer. But the Red Russet was the better, both for table and cooking, being intermediate, in its quality, between the Baldwin and Roxbury Russet. It resembled the Baldwin on one side, being of a bright red, and on the other side it was like the Roxbury Russet. We had already tried it in the nursery, and found it as great a grower as the Baldwin; but the wood was different, being very red, with numerous light specks, and it was much harder than the wood of the Baldwin, and evidently more hardy. The young shoots were as large in length as those of the Baldwin, but less in diameter.

In fruit and wood it seemed to be a distinct variety, and very desirable, as it was so late, hardy, and vigorous. We were informed that it originated on the farm of Mr. Aaron Sanborn, Hampton Falls, N. H. Some time last winter, a friend, who is an extensive fruit-grower, gave us a specimen of apple, which he said answered our description of the Red Russet, and ranked high as a valuable fruit for late keeping, and he told its origin, as it was considered. The fruit appeared precisely like the Red Russet, as far as we could judge from a single specimen.

This led us to inquire of Mr. Sanborn particularly as to his variety, and he thinks that he grafted many trees of the Baldwin, and one of them produced the Red Russet. He says that it is popular in that region, and the neighbors are propagating it. We have thus given all we know about this fruit, and we regret that there should be any confusion about it, or any doubts as to this promising variety being entirely distinct. We hold that the stock has an effect in modifying both fruit and wood, but we hardly think that it would modify the fruit so as to appear very different, and keep three months longer than usual, and so affect the wood that it would appear very different indeed, both in color and texture.

We would still recommend the Red Russet for trial. We shall examine further into the subject of this fruit, and that of our friend's, which resembles it, and give information on it by-and-by. We have ever been cautious about recommending new fruits, generally preferring several years' experience before introducing a new fruit for general culture. The great want of a fruit like the Red Russet induced us to bring it forward rather early, and we still hope that it will prove a valuable acquisition.

Improve the Mind. — No man who improves his leisure hours in useful reading and study, can fail in becoming distinguished in his profession, while he who spends his time in idleness or self-indulgence is sure to occupy an inferior position in life.

For the New England Farmer.

CULTIVATION OF CARROTS.

Mr. Cole: When the time arrives for tying up my cattle for the night, in expectation of a mess of carrots, they rush for the stalls with a perfect looseness; all eyes are intently directed towards the place from whence the favorite meal is to come; and then ensues such a craunching of roots, and such a smacking of chops, that the observer, even though a sick man, soon becomes hungry, and would talk to you of the gusto of a full repast. It certainly is a pleasure to the humane farmer to be able, by the growing of carrots, so fully to gratify the taste, as well as to promote the health and sleek condition, of his agricultural animals.

The carrot gives a better return than almost any thing the farmer raises; if the land is well chosen and prepared, the work of tending it is easy and pleasant; as winter feed, it highly promotes the health and growth of calves, colts, and store swine; cows fed upon it almost invariably do well at calving time, and afterwards give a full flow of milk, yielding the best of butter; and a daily allowance of it to the old horse causes him to forget his infirmities, and almost to renew his youth. I am, therefore, surprised that the carrot is not more generally grown by our farmers. Hoping to attract attention somewhat to the importance and value of this root, I will now tell you what I know about cultivating it.

In raising the carrot, the largest crop will be obtained, and the least labor will be required, by selecting a piece of old grass-ground, of deep fertile soil. Twenty loads per acre of partly fermented manure should be spread upon the grass, and the sod and manure turned under to the depth of eight or ten inches, in the very nicest style of the art. If the top soil will not admit of so deep a furrow by reason of a subsoil of hard pan near the surface, or if the sole of the plough, and the treading of the team, have formed a hard crust by long use in shallow furrows, the subsoil plough should be used, loosening and pulverizing the earth to such a depth as may give full range to the tap-root of the carrot. But if the surface furrow can be taken nine inches deep, that will answer. Twenty loads of fine manure per acre (compost is the best) should be spread on the inverted furrows, three or four inches deep of the surface made perfectly fine and mellow, and well mixed with manure by the harrow, and the seed immediately sown. The rows should be two feet apart rather than nearer, because the after-culture can be more easily performed. There are various cheap machines for sowing carrots and other root seeds, with which a man can sow an acre in two or three hours, and do the work better too than it can be done by hand-sowing.

It is a great advantage gained, to manure, plough, harrow, and sow at just the right time, one operation following the other in quick succession; for the ground being thus fresh, moist, and mellow, and the surface perfectly clear of weeds, the young carrots come on considerably ahead of other vegetation, and the first hoeing — the most laborious part of the whole business — is done with comparatively little labor. The latter part of May, or first of June, is early enough to sow. For the same reason, the right time to hoe should at all hazards be seized upon. Every good cultivator knows that by attending to weeds as soon as they appear above ground, a victory over them is easily gained; while a week's delay may cost a severe struggle to accomplish the same object. If for any reason, therefore, the weeds should come up ahead of the carrots, the ground between the rows should be hoed over, which can readily be done, for the wheel of the seed-sower will leave its track so distinctly as to point out where the young carrots are. A light, iron-toothed rake is a capital tool to clean a carrot crop with, provided the weeds are young and tender. I have raised some crops with no other weeding than the frequent raking of the ground. It gives a very fine mellow surface, and the work can be rapidly done. I do not spend as much time as some cultivators do in thinning out carrots, and no doubt the crop is thereby somewhat smaller; but by regulating the sowing so as not to get on a very great quantity of seed, I can grow a good enough crop to satisfy me without the labor of thinning the rows.

The advantages arising from the choice of an old greensward for the growing of carrots on, are these: by ploughing it so nicely as to shut all the grass under to the depth of eight or nine inches, the vegetation of the then surface is not only put out of the way, but a new surface, free of weed seeds, is brought up, upon which the carrots can be grown with one third the expense they could be on old cultivated ground; the decomposing sod beneath keeps the land light and mellow, is easily penetrated by the tap-roots of the carrots, forms a sort of reservoir for moisture, and, together with the manure turned under, furnishes abundant sustenance for the crop, in its latter and largest growth. The fine manure on top stimulates the young plants in the outset.

In harvesting the crop, a light plough may be run near each row, and then, by pressing into the ground, on the side of the row opposite the furrow made by the plough, a broad, eight or ten tined manure-fork, and by gently prying up with it, the carrots may be taken out rapidly, without injury. The tops may be cut off with a sharp caseknife, or twisted off with the fingers.

In storing the crop, a root-cellar at the barn is just the thing; and if one is not already provided, it had better be immediately. But if this is not thought convenient or best, a portion of the crop, for early feeding, can be put into the house-cellar, and the remainder stored in a hole or in holes in the ground, in the field, and covered temporarily with boards and earth, so that they can be removed any time when wanted. The expense of securing in this way is trifling.

In preparing carrots for feeding, they may be emptied on to the barn-floor, and a good steel shovel, ground to a sharp edge, will, in vigorous hands, cut them up rapidly. But a Vegetable Cutter is better, and such a machine can now be had, at the agricultural warehouses, at small cost.

Five or six nice large carrots can be set out, in the spring, in a warm, sunny spot in the garden, and they will furnish seed enough for the next year's sowing. The tops will grow high and rank, and a temporary frame will need to be placed around them to keep them from falling to the ground and spoiling the seed. When the seed is ripe, it should be gathered in a dry state, and then, if well preserved, it can be depended upon the next year as sure to come up well.

An acre of ground, well chosen, well manured, nicely ploughed and prepared, sowed to carrots, and properly tended, will yield eight or ten hundred bushels, at an expense, according to circumstances, of four to eight cents per bushel. Any farmer, having stock to winter, and wishing to carry them through in high health and condition, who is not satisfied with such a result, must grow some other crop, unknown to me, to suit his fastidious taste.

F. HOLBROOK.

Brattleboro', Vt., *April* 18, 1850.

Does not the echo of the sea-shell tell of the worm that once inhabited it? and shall not man's good deeds live after him and sing his praise?

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Dadd's Reformed Veterinary Art, and Dictionary. — This work contains Outlines of the Anatomy and Physiology of the Horse; also, Practical Observations on Feeding, Watering, Shoeing, &c., written with a View of reforming the Veterinary Science; containing, also, a Veterinary Dictionary, from the Works of R. White, V. S., adapted to the Present State of Reformed Practice in the United States; with Remarks on Bloodletting, and the Use of Poisons, showing their Destructive Tendency. The author of this work, George H. Dadd, M. D., Veterinary Surgeon in this city, is favorably known to the public by his horse and cattle medicines, which have been used extensively; and by his reformed practice in the use of mild medicines, and restorative means, instead of the harsh means, and powerful and dangerous medicines, used by practitioners of the *old school*. We commend the work as a valuable contribution to veterinary science, containing a large amount of useful matter. Something may be gathered of Dr. Dadd's views by his communication on another page of this number. This book is handsomely executed, in paper, typography, engravings, and binding. Octavo, pp. 308. Published by the author, Nos. 1 and 2 Haymarket Square.

The Boston Melodeon. — The recent edition of this excellent and popular work contains some pieces never before published in this country; others are presented in a new dress, and a few are original. Boston: Elias Howe, No. 11 Cornhill.

Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture. — The last number, as usual, contains much interesting and instructive matter.

Principles of the Human Mind, with a Lecture on Electro-Biology, by Alfred Smee, F. R. S. The philosophy of the mind, and the voltaic mechanism of man, are the subjects illustrated in this little work. New York: Fowlers & Wells.

THE STUDY OF NATURE.

The sneers of superficial men upon the weakness which has appeared in the conduct of some inquirers into nature, ought to have no influence to discourage us from those researches. If some few have spent too much time in the study of insects, to the neglect of the nobler parts of creation, their error ought to suggest to us, not a total neglect of those inferior parts of nature, but only to avoid the mistake of giving ourselves wholly to them. There is no species which Infinite Wisdom has thought worth making and preserving for ages, that is not supremely worthy of our inquiring into its nature. And it is certain there is more of curious workmanship in the structure of the body of the meanest reptile, than in the most complicated and most delicate machine that ever was, or will be, constructed by human hands.

Russia. — The cold in this country has been more intense than it has been before within the memory of man.

A STICK OF TYPE.

C. D. Stuart.

A Stick of Type! What shot or shell
From war's grim camp hath half the power?
A Stick of Type! with this one thought,
That *Freedom's man's God-given dower!*

That Stick of Type hath more of might
Than warrior hosts or fortress walls,
And it shall batter towers to dust
That laugh at siege or cannon balls.

That Stick of Type! I see it break
The eldest of the blood-built thrones,
And lift the yoke from millions, bowed
O'er dead slave-millions' bleaching bones.

That Stick of Type! Careering fleets
Before it idly flap their wings,
And bannered armies pass like chaff,
Grown hideous 'mong remembered things.

That Stick of Type! God bless the Faust,
Who wrought it in his conquering brain;
That Stick of Type! God bless the Hoe,
Who scatters it abroad like rain.

The Type! the Press! the living thought!
By steam and lightning sped abroad,
Shall conquer yet, and bring to man
The Freedom, Love, and Truth of God!

THE OLIO.

As many as are the difficulties which virtue has to encounter in this world, her force is yet superior. — *Earl of Shaftesbury.*

The total loss of reason is less deplorable than the total deprivation of it. — *Cowley.*

He that arms his intent with virtue is invincible.

Human frailty is no excuse for criminal immorality.

Leisure is a very pleasant garment to look at, but it is a very bad one to wear. The ruin of millions may be traced to it.

Great talent renders a man famous; great merit procures respect; great learning gains esteem; good breeding alone insures love and affection.

The humblest author must embalm some flowers of thought; write often, then, that they may blossom over your tomb.

TERMS. — The New England Farmer is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume, if left at this office. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

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